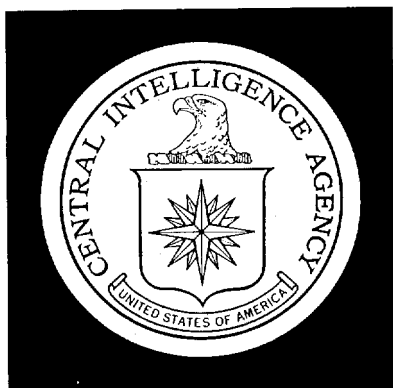


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MALTA: Demand for interim payment (Page 8)

INDIA: Aircraft carrier Vikrant (Page 8)

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PAKISTAN-INDIA: The Pakistani Air Force has recalled all personnel on leave in an effort to upgrade its alert, [REDACTED]

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This move reportedly is in direct response to Indian activities at 15 airfields--ten near the India - West Pakistan border and five near the India - East Pakistan border. Pakistan reportedly believes that 12 of these airfields have been reactivated recently. [REDACTED]

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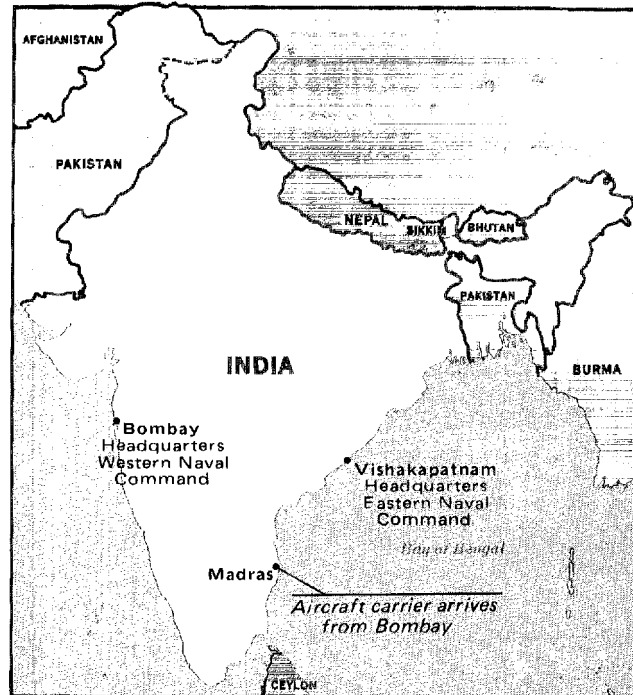
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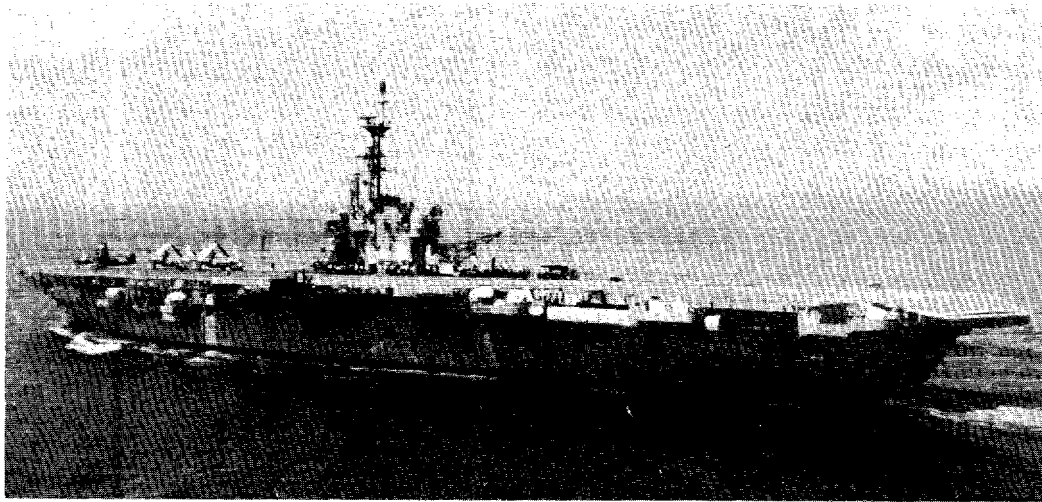
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## India Shifts Aircraft Carrier to Eastern Naval Command



Vikrant



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NOTES

MALTA: Prime Minister Mintoff is having problems negotiating an agreement with the Libyans. Mintoff has told acting NATO secretary general Kastl that Tripoli has offered financial assistance if the UK presence is eliminated; if the British remain, however, Libya would give no regular cash subsidy and would extend aid only for specific projects. Mintoff reiterated his need for an interim cash payment "now" to enable his government to meet its financial obligations. The payment would also give the UK and NATO more bargaining time to reach a final settlement with Malta.

The US ambassador believes that Mintoff is prepared to risk unfavorable domestic political consequences that may result from carrying out his threat to order British forces to withdraw if emergency cash aid is not forthcoming. Even if he obtains these interim funds, there is evidence to suggest that the ground is now being prepared within the ruling Labor Party for the initial rejection of NATO's proposed \$15.6-million annual cash payment to Malta.

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INDIA: India's only aircraft carrier, the Vikrant, has arrived in Madras and is participating in exercises in the Bay of Bengal with the Eastern Naval Command. The carrier, which had operated in the Western Fleet, is scheduled to remain with the Eastern Naval Command for at least the remainder of this month. India also has shifted a number of other Western Fleet ships to Vishakapatnam to participate in the exercises, which probably are intended to rehearse contingency plans and to prepare for joint service maneuvers scheduled for late September or early October.

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